

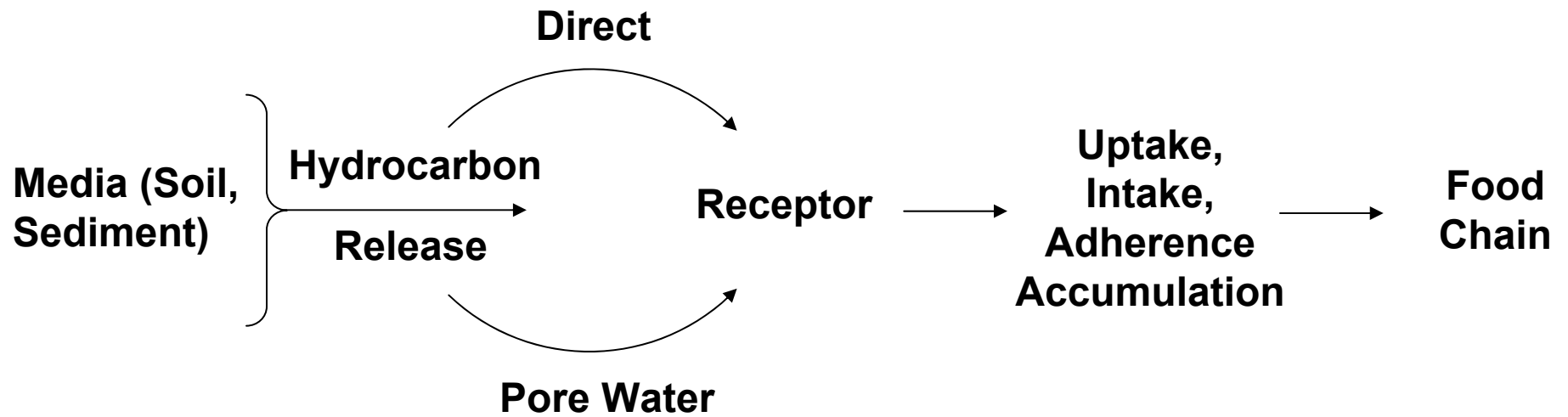
**REDUCING UNCERTAINTY IN
COMPARATIVE RISK ASSESSMENTS —
RESEARCH THAT MAKES A
DIFFERENCE**

**Dr. Raymond C. Loehr
H. M. Alharthy Chair, Emeritus
University of Texas at Austin**

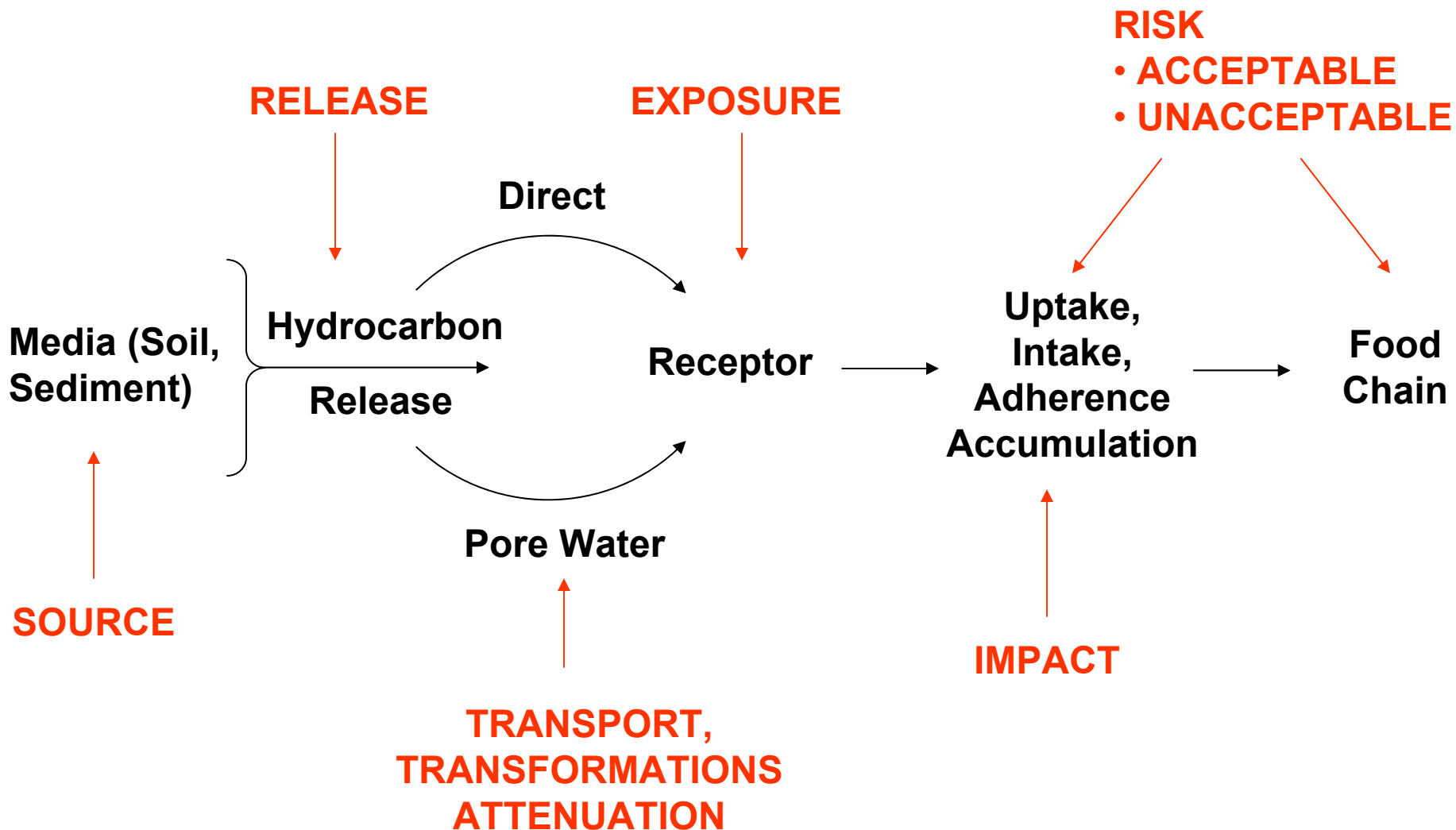
**September 29, 2004
Oakland, CA**

OVERVIEW

- **MEDIA CONTAINING PETROLEUM HYDROCARBONS**
- **PERSPECTIVES AND CONTEXT**
- **TOPICS AND DIRECTIONS**
- **STIMULATE DISCUSSION**
- **HELP FOCUS STRATEGY**
- **20,000 FOOT VIEW**

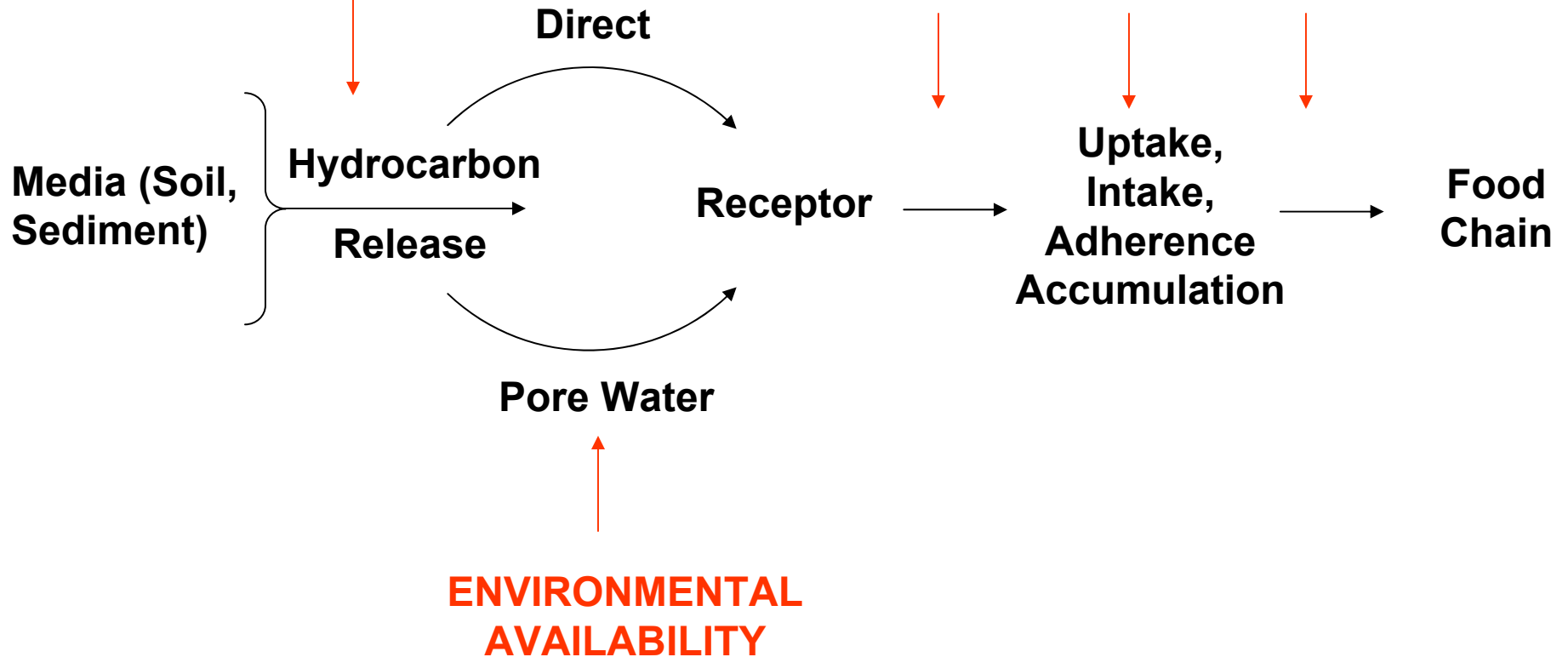


SIMPLISTIC PATHWAY ASSESSMENT



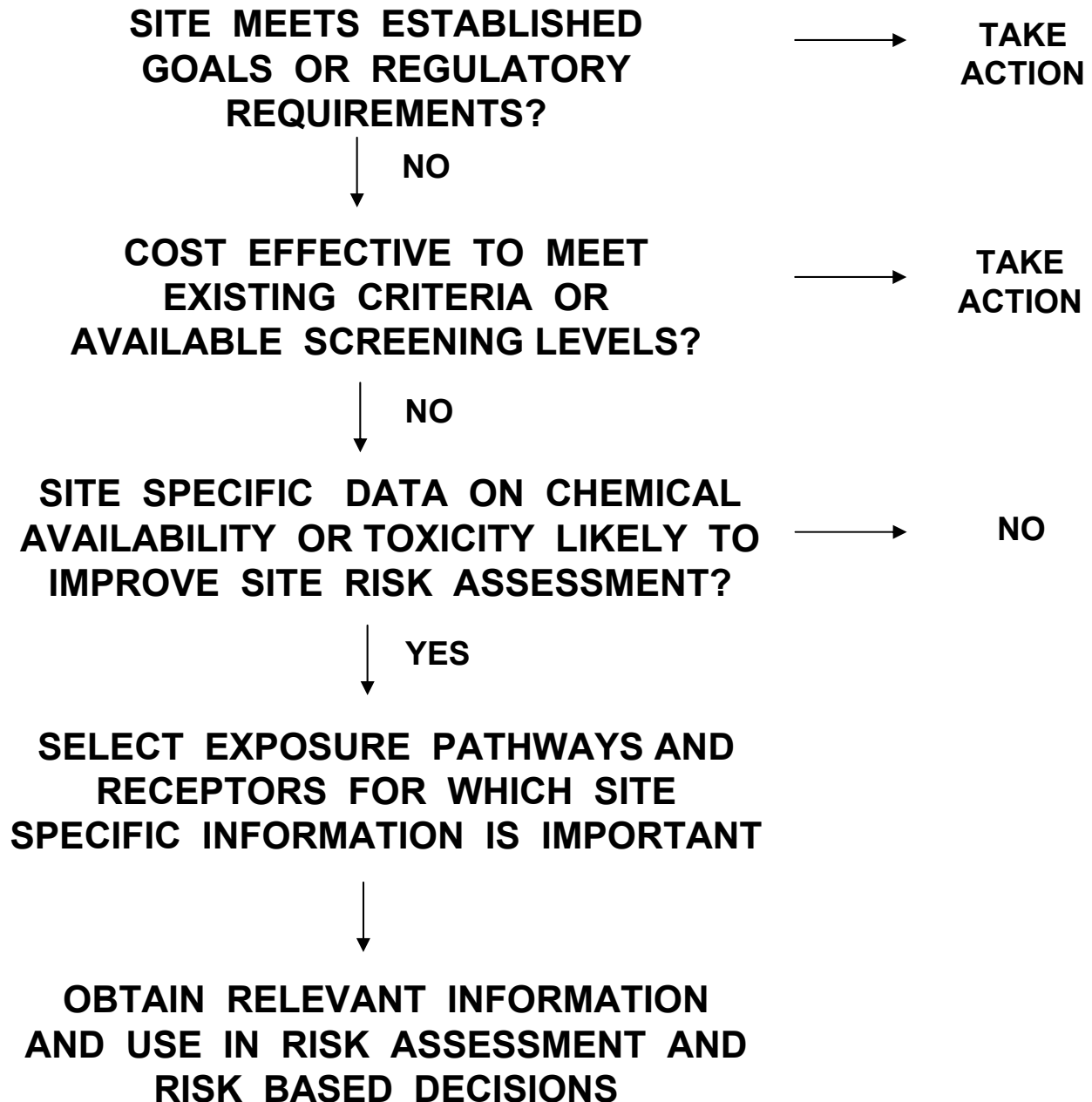
**CHEMICAL
AVAILABILITY**

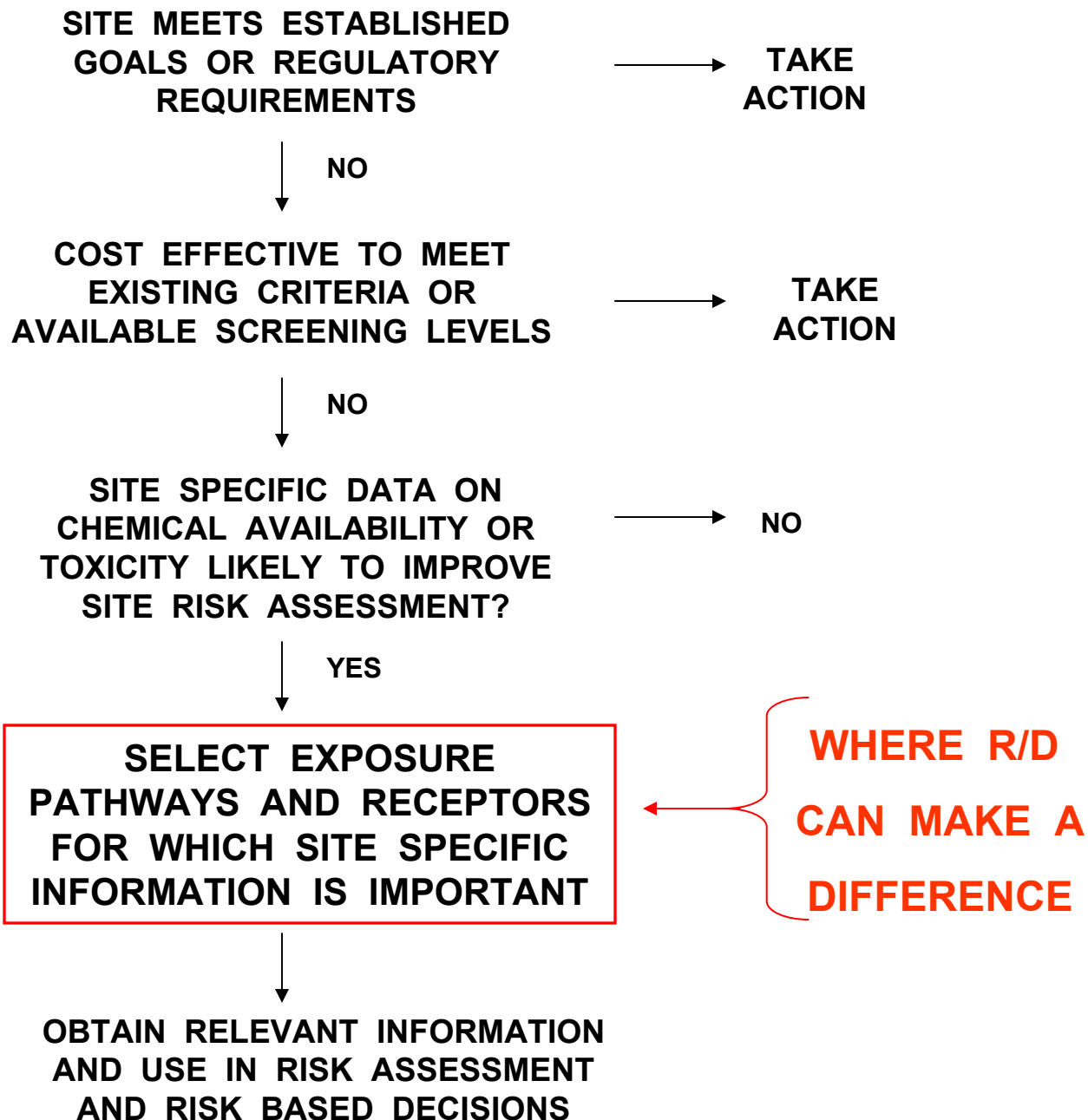
ENVIRONMENTAL BIOAVAILABILITY



R/D FOCUS

- **CONTINUED PROTECTION OF HHE**
- **“USE INSPIRED” R/D WITH REAL WORLD SAMPLES AND SCENARIOS**
- **REDUCE UNCERTAINTIES IN KEY ASSUMPTIONS AND DEFAULT VALUES**
- **MAKE A DIFFERENCE BEFORE THE DECIMAL POINT 00.00**
- **FINITE RESOURCES**





PETROLEUM HYDROCARBONS

- **CRUDE OIL (C20 – C48)**
- **HEAVY FUEL OILS (C19 – C25)**
- **DIESEL AND FUEL OILS (C13 – C17)**
- **KEROSENE AND JET FUELS (C11 – C13)**
- **GASOLINE (C5 – C10)**
- **LOW PAH**

DIFFERENT HYDROCARBONS HAVE DIFFERENT

- **BOILING POINTS**
- **PARTITIONING COEFFICIENTS**
- **RELEASE FACTORS**
- **VOLATILITY, SOLUBILITY, MOBILITY**

FACTORS AFFECTING IMPACT INCLUDE

- **FRESH SPILL**
- **WEATHERING / AGING**
- **OTHER CONSTITUENTS**
- **NAPL EFFECT**
- **MEDIA CHARACTERISTICS**

WHAT HAS BEEN LEARNED ??

- **HYDROCARBON CONCENTRATION DATA DO NOT CORRELATE TO TOXICITY OR IMPACT OR EVEN IMPLY CONTAMINATION**
- **IMPORTANT TO EVALUATE REAL WORLD SITE SAMPLES, PATHWAYS AND RISK SCENARIOS**
- **NOT ALL HYDROCARBONS ARE RELEASED RAPIDLY OR FULLY**
- **HYDROCARBONS IN A SOIL ARE NOT EQUALLY ENVIRONMENTALLY AVAILABLE**

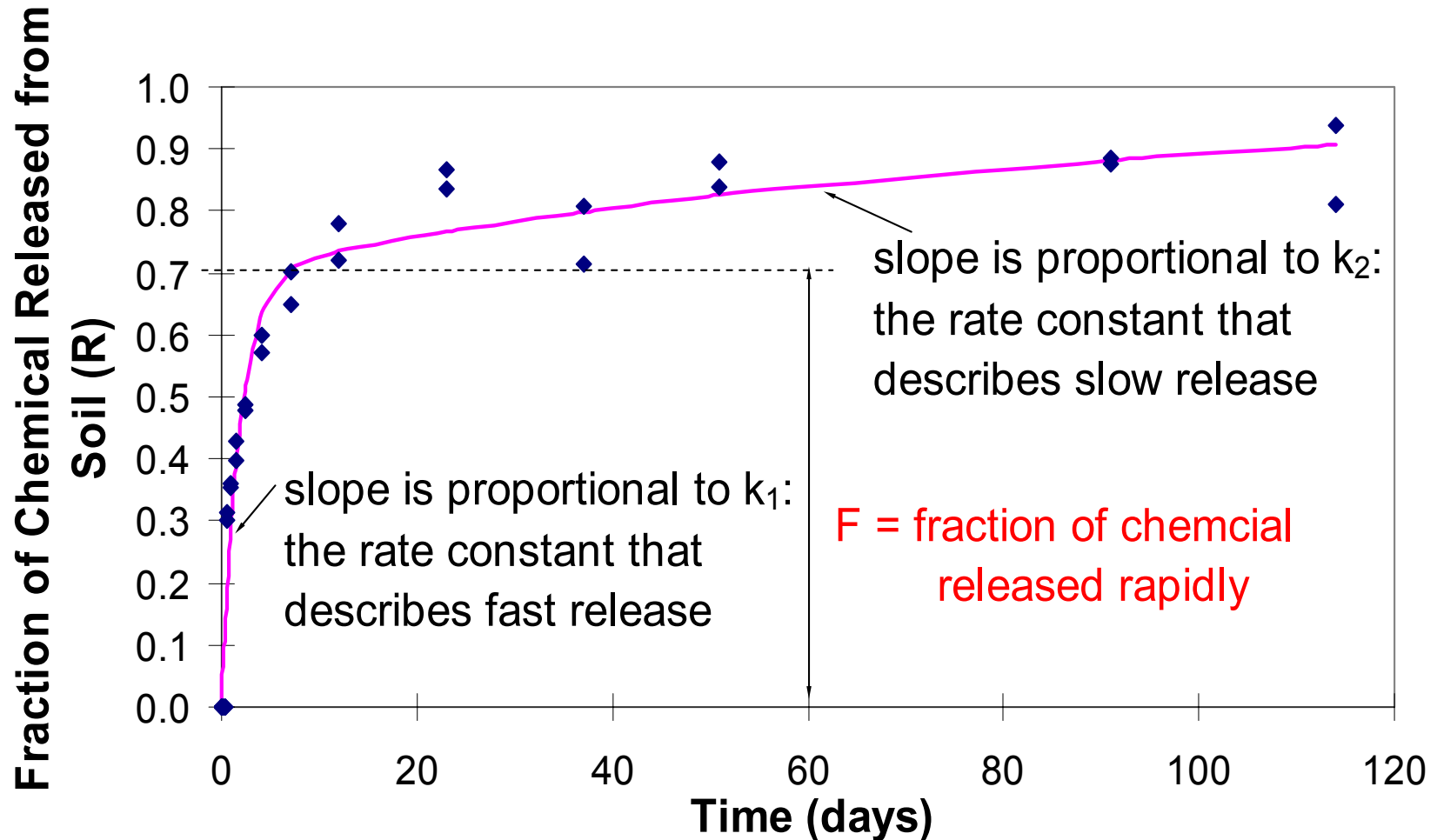
WHAT HAS BEEN LEARNED??

- PARTITIONING OF “REAL WORLD” TPH IS GREATER THAN THAT OF SPIKED TPH
- STRONGER SORPTION REDUCES CHEMICAL RELEASE AND BIOAVAILABILITY TO SOIL AND BENTHIC LIFE
- HYDROPHOBIC CHEMICALS ARE ASSOCIATED WITH ORGANIC MATTER AND ORGANIC SORBENTS
- SUCH SORBENTS ARE BEING CONSIDERED AS PART OF ACTIVE CAPS FOR SEDIMENTS
 - activated carbon, coke, organoclays

WHAT HAS BEEN LEARNED ??

- **CHEMICAL RELEASE AND AVAILABILITY DEPEND ON THE TYPE OF SORBENT (CARBON) IN THE MEDIA**
- **ANTHROPOGENIC CARBON BINDS HYDROCARBONS 10 TO 100 TIMES GREATER THAN NATURAL ORGANIC CARBON**
- **CHEMICAL RELEASE CAN BE DEPICTED AS FAST RELEASE (F VALUE) FOLLOWED BY A SLOW RELEASE RATE (k_2)**

ILLUSTRATIVE CHEMICAL RELEASE CURVE



ILLUSTRATIVE
CHEMICAL RELEASE DATA - -
PETROLEUM HYDROCARBONS

SOURCE	SOIL	HYDRO-CARBON	F VALUE
REFINERY SITE	SANDY SILT	C 20	0.11
	SANDY SILT	C 32	0.02
	SANDY SILT	MRO	0.09
CRUDE OIL STORAGE SITE	CLAYEY	MRO	0.04
INDUSTRIAL	SANDY SILT	C 10	0.40
	SANDY SILT	C 20	0.45
	SANDY SILT	C 25	0.05

FACTORS AFFECTING THE MAGNITUDE OF THE F VALUE INCLUDE

- **FRESH SPILL**
- **WEATHERING**
- **HYDROCARBON CHARACTERISTICS**
- **MEDIA CHARACTERISTICS**
 - **SORPTIVE NATURE**
 - **OM, CLAY**
 - **CARBON**
- **NAPL EFFECT**

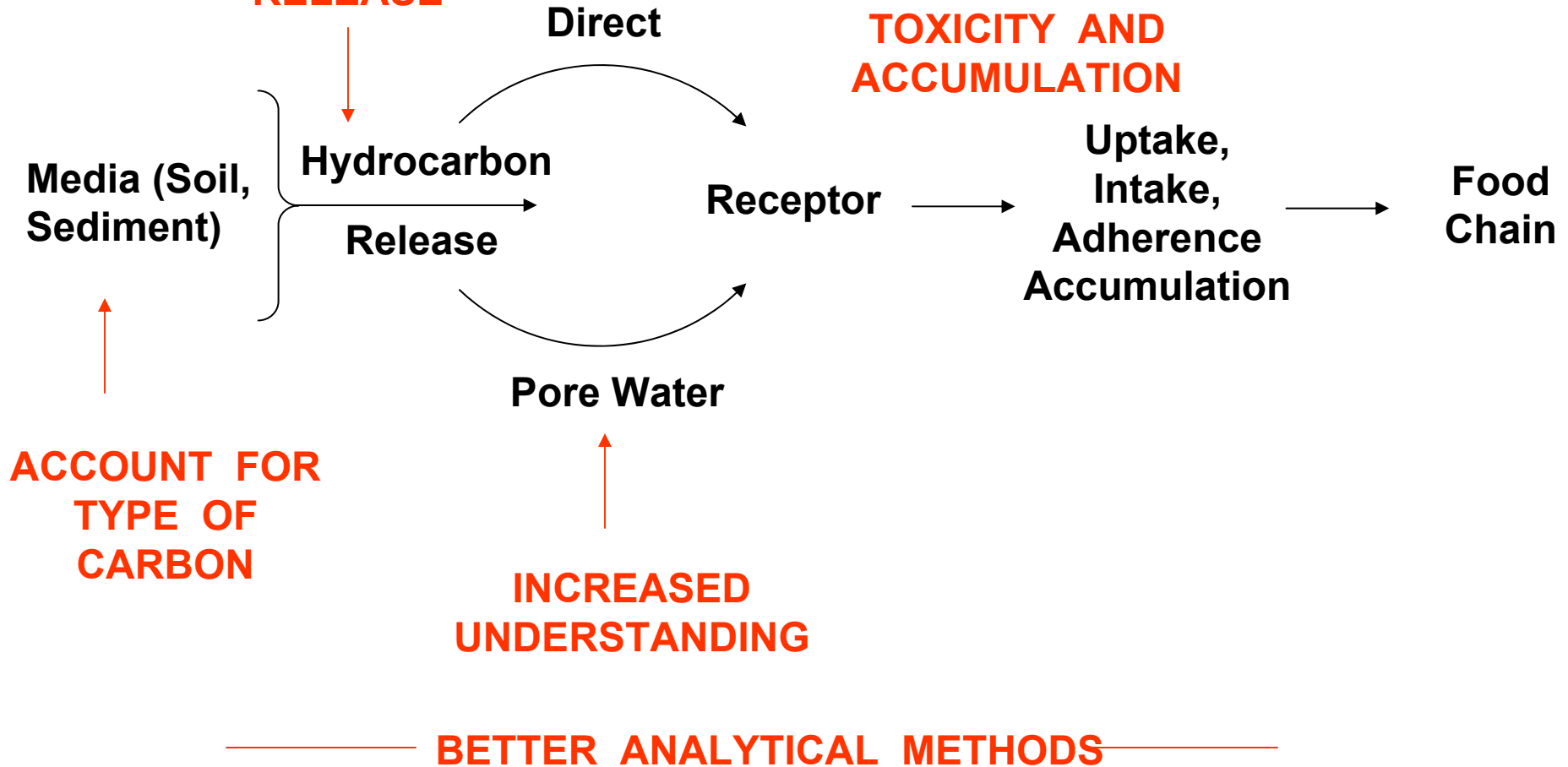
WHAT HAS BEEN LEARNED ??

- ANALYTICAL PROCEDURES EXIST TO DETERMINE F AND k_2 VALUES --- SFE, WATER DESORPTION
- EMPIRICALLY, USE OF THE F VALUE APPEARS TO HELP IMPROVE RELATIVE RISK EVALUATIONS OF HYDROCARBON CONTAINING MEDIA
- AN APPARENT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FRACTION OF HYDROCARBON RAPIDLY RELEASED AND THE BIODEGRADABLE FRACTION OF THE HYDROCARBON

WHAT KNOWLEDGE IS NOW AVAILABLE?

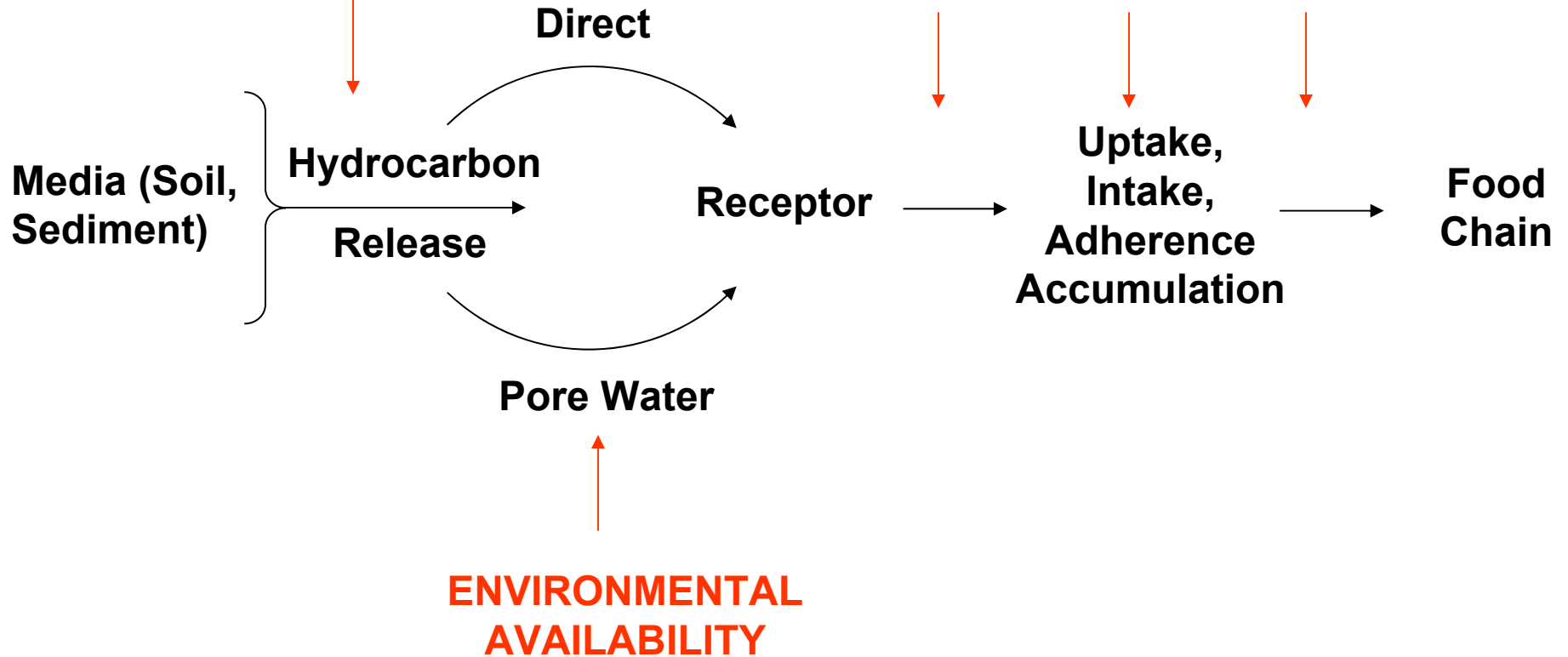
ABLE TO
MEASURE
CHEMICAL
RELEASE

DIRECTLY MEASURE
TOXICITY AND
ACCUMULATION



**CHEMICAL
AVAILABILITY**

ENVIRONMENTAL BIOAVAILABILITY



MAJOR POINTS FOR R / D STRATEGY

- **CONTINUE TO PROTECT HHE**
- **AVOID ISSUES OF THE MOMENT**
- **DECREASE IMPORTANT UNCERTAINTIES**
- **R/D SHOULD MAKE A DIFFERENCE AND BE
“USE INSPIRED”**
- **IDENTIFY “CLIENT” NEEDS**
- **A TEAM IS NEEDED**
- **USE REAL WORLD SITE SAMPLES AND
SCENARIOS**

POSSIBLE FOCUS FOR SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION

- **WHAT KEY HYPOTHESES AND/OR UNCERTAINTIES NEED TO BE EVALUATED TO “MAKE A DIFFERENCE” ?**
- **NEED A VISION FOR R/D THAT CAN BE TRANSLATED TO ACTION**